

Remarks

Following entry of the above amendment, claims 1-17 and 21 are pending. Claims 18-20 and 22-23 have been cancelled. Applicants amend claims 1, 2, and 11 - 16 to place them in a form more appropriate for US practice, and to focus on particular embodiments of the invention. Support for the amendment is found in the specification as originally filed. See, for example, pages 14-108 and the examples therein, including pages 36, 38, 41 and 61, and the examples therein, and the claims as originally filed.

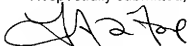
Applicants note the Request for Continued Examination in the instant application was filed following a notice of allowance, but prior to the payment of the issue fee. Applicants request was accompanied by the submission of an IDS. Applicants now wish to amend the claims of the instant application prior to the first office action following the request for continued examination. Applicants hereby respectfully request entry of the subject amendment.

Applicants believe the present claims are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Should any other fees be deemed necessary to effect the timely filing of this paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 07-1392.

If the Examiner has any outstanding issues with the pending claims, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (919) 483-6334 for expeditious handling.

Respectfully submitted,



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